



Guide Dogs of America



Tender Loving Canines

OUR IMPACT

Transforming lives through partnerships with service dogs

Our Organization

At Guide Dogs of America | Tender Loving Canines, we transform lives through partnerships with service dogs. We breed, raise, and train guide dogs for individuals who are blind/visually impaired and service dogs for veterans and children with autism. We also place facility dogs with professionals in hospitals, schools, and courtrooms. All programs and services, including transportation, personalized training, room/board, and postgraduate support, are provided at no cost to the recipient.

Our Dogs

OUR GUIDE DOGS FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED improve our clients' mobility and bring new opportunities for life experiences and social interaction. These highly trained canines help our clients travel safely from one destination to the next.

OUR SERVICE DOGS FOR VETERANS help heroes reintegrate into society by alleviating their PTSD symptoms and assisting with mobility limitations. They are trained to provide grounding or sensory input to decrease the physiological symptoms of stress/anxiety.

OUR SERVICE DOGS FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM become trusted companions that create hope and usher confidence and independence into our clients and their families' lives. They can also perform cues like visit, wave, bow, and fist bump to welcome new opportunities to help improve communication skills.

OUR FACILITY DOGS ARE TASK-TRAINED SERVICE ANIMALS that partner with professionals to support individuals with disabilities, victims of crime, and other vulnerable populations.

\$60,000

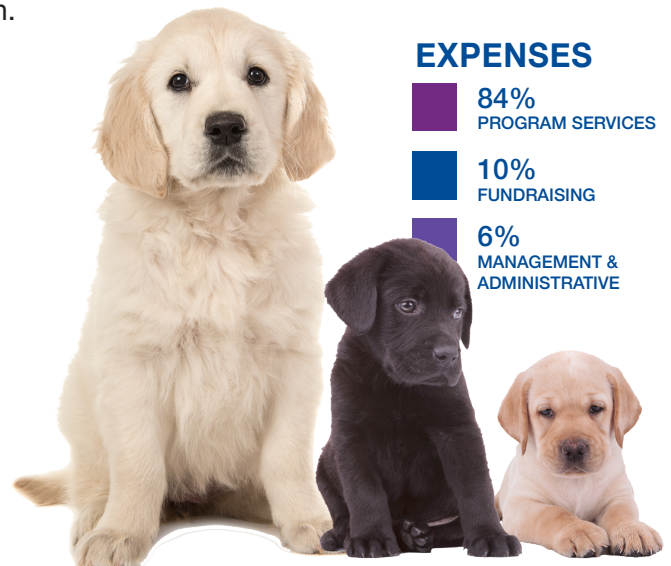
Our cost of breeding, raising and training each team — service dog and student

Our Community

- 250 Volunteers
- 150 Puppy Raisers
- Over 6,000 Annual Donors

Fiscal Year 2023 (7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023)

Financial Information



TRANSFORMING LIVES, ONE TEAM AT A TIME



ANGEL AND FACILITY DOG, VIVIAN

“Vivian provides the patient a much needed distraction from their pain.”

—Angel

Allow me to briefly explain Vivian’s role and the impact she has. While my colleagues focus on the medical treatment of our hospital’s patients, Vivian and I step in to address the emotional aspects of the illness’ burden. When we enter a room, Vivian provides the patient a much needed distraction from their pain. During those challenging conversations about “next steps,” she comforts patients and their families, who often feel helpless.

All of these things are heavy, but the expression on a patient’s face when Vivian enters the room is indescribable — it’s a moment that truly brightens their day. Her presence brings about joy, comfort, and happiness. The hospital staff themselves acknowledge that our dogs make their days more manageable, while patients consistently describe our visits as the highlight of their hospital stay. Most significantly, family members say our facility dogs gave their loved ones their very last smile on this Earth, a gift they will forever cherish.

To GDA|TLC and everybody who put time, love, and support into raising and training this precious girl, you have no idea how many lives you will impact. So, on behalf of Huntsville Hospital, our surrounding community, and from the bottom of my heart, thank you so much. I promise to love, spoil, and care for this girl forever.

Your generous donations make it possible to transform lives, one dog at a time. Here are some of this year’s highlights by the numbers...

108
Volunteer Puppy Raisers

270
Active GDA | TLC Graduates

56
Working Teams Graduated

- 25 Guide
- 11 Veteran
- 13 Autism
- 7 Facility

59
Service Dogs Trained In our Prison Program

39
Dogs Entered Guide Dog Training

1800+
Exams and Surgeries Performed by Our Veterinary Department



[guideddogsofamerica.org](https://www.guideddogsofamerica.org)

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